Claims

I claim:

1. A method of treating cutaneous flushing in humans caused by abnormal, endogenously-induced vasomotor instability comprising administering, to said human via topical dermatological application, a composition comprising at least one selective α_2 adrenergic receptor agonist admixed with a dermatologically acceptable carrier, in an amount effective to reduce, inhibit, reverse or prevent cutaneous facial flushing.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the composition contains at least one (2-imidazolin-2-ylamino) quinoxaline derivative.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the cutaneous flushing is facial flushing and the flushing reaction is caused by acne rosacea.

4. The method of claim 2, wherein the cutaneous flushing is facial flushing and the flushing reaction is caused by acne rosacea.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the cutaneous flushing is facial flushing and the flushing reaction is caused by menopause-associated hot flashes.

6. The method of claim 2, wherein the cutaneous flushing is facial flushing and the flushing reaction is caused by menopause-associated hot flashes.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the cutaneous flushing is facial flushing and the flushing reaction is the result of hot flashes following orchiectomy.

8. The method of claim 2, wherein the cutaneous flushing is facial flushing and the flushing reaction is the result of hot flashes following orchiectomy.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the cutaneous flushing is facial flushing and the flushing reaction is caused by ingestion of a substance capable of inducing cutaneous facial flushing selected from the group consisting of alcohol, chocolate, spice, flavor-enhancing additives and mono-sodium glutamate.

10. The method of claim 2, wherein the cutaneous flushing is facial flushing and the flushing reaction is caused by ingestion of a substance capable of inducing cutaneous facial flushing selected from the group consisting of alcohol, chocolate, spice, flavor-enhancing additives and mono-sodium glutamate.

11. The method of claim 2, wherein the composition further comprisesan agent, or combination of agents, selected from the group consisting of antibacterial agents, anthelmintic agents, antioxidant agents, steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, antiangiogenic agents, and derivatives of retinoic acid.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the composition further comprises an agent, or combination of agents, selected from the group consisting of antibacterial agents, anthelmintic agents, antioxidant agents, steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, antiangiogenic agents, and derivatives of retinoic acid,.

13. The method according to claim 2, wherein said at least one (2-imidazolin-2-ylamino) quinoxaline derivative is brimonidine tartrate.

14. The method of claim 2, wherein the composition further comprises: aloe; compounds that act as sunscreens; or a combination of aloe and compounds that act as sunscreens.

15. The method of claim 2, wherein the composition further comprises a preservative.

16. The method of claim 2, wherein the composition further comprises a halogen.

17. The method of claim 2, wherein the (2-imidazolin-2-ylamino) quinoxaline derivative is combined with an acidic group other than tartrate.

18. The method of claim 1, wherein the composition further comprises an agent, or combination of agents, selected from the group consisting of antibacterial agents, anthelmintic agents, antioxidant agents, steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, antiangiogenic agents, and derivatives of retinoic acid.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the composition further comprises: aloe; compounds that act as sunscreens; or a combination of aloe and compounds that act as sunscreens.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the composition further comprises a preservative.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the composition further comprises a halogen.

22. A composition comprising at least one selective α_2 adrenergic receptor agonist admixed with a dermatologically acceptable carrier and one or more agent selected from the group consisting of antibacterial agents, anthelmintic agents, antioxidant agents, steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, antiangiogenic agents, derivatives of retinoic acid, aloe, compounds that act as sunscreens, a combination of aloe and compounds that act as sunscreens, preservatives, halogens and combinations of said agents.

23. The composition according to claim 22, wherein the selective α_2 adrenergic receptor agonist is a (2-imidazolin-2-ylamino) quinoxaline derivative.

24. The composition according to claim 23, wherein said (2-imidazolin-2-ylamino) quinoxaline derivative is brimonidine tartrate.

25. The composition according to claim 23, wherein said at least one selective adrenergic receptor agonist is selected from the group consisting of guanabenz, guanfacine, alpha-methyl DOPA (methydopamine), amphetamine, methylphenidate, lofexidine, moxonidine, dexmedetomidine, mivazerol, (2-imidazolin-2-ylamino) quinoxaline derivatives, brimonidine, and combinations thereof.

26. A method for the treatment of flushing in an individual comprising the administration of a composition comprising at least one selective α_2 adrenergic receptor agonist and a carrier in an amount sufficient to prevent, reduce, ameliorate, or inhibit facial flushing.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein said at least one selective adrenergic receptor agonist is selected from the group consisting of guanabenz, guanfacine, alpha-methyl DOPA (methydopamine), amphetamine, methylphenidate, lofexidine, moxonidine, dexmedetomidine, mivazerol, (2-imidazolin-2-ylamino) quinoxaline derivatives, brimonidine, and combinations thereof.

28. The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one selective adrenergic receptor agonist is selected from the group consisting of guanabenz, guanfacine, alpha-methyl DOPA (methydopamine), amphetamine, methylphenidate, lofexidine, moxonidine, dexmedetomidine, mivazerol, (2-imidazolin-2-ylamino) quinoxaline derivatives, brimonidine, and combinations thereof.